

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 03507 120552Z

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ORM-02 DHA-02 AID-05 /088 W

-----130330Z 043703 /61

R 111545Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5220

USMISSION GENEVA

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USUN NEW YORK 333

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LA PAZ 3507

GENEVA FOR US REP ICEM

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, BL

SUBJ: GOB DISAVOWS PRESS REPORTS THAT IT HAS DECIDED TO

ACCEPT 150,000 IMMIGRANTS FROM RHODESIA, SOUTH

AFRICA AND NAMIBIA

1. BOLIVIA'S SUB-SECRETARY FOR IMMIGRATION, GUIDO STRAUSS, HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE MAY 9 TO STATE THAT LOCAL PRESS REPORTS THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF BOLIVIA HAD DECIDED TO ACCEPT 150,000 SETTLERS FROM RHODESIA, SOUTH AFRICA AND NAMIBIA ARE NOT TRUE.

RATHER, STRAUSS SAID, THE GOB'S NATIONAL IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE HAD BEEN AUTHORIZED TO INFORM THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN MIGRATION OF BOLIVIA'S WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT IMMIGRANT FAMILIES IN THE AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRIAL, AND PRIVATE BUSINESS FIELDS. BUT HE SAID BOLIVIA DID NOT HAVE THE ECONOMIC AND ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY TO RECEIVE 150,000

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IMMIGRANTS. STRAUSS ALSO DENIED REPORTS OF GOVERNMENT PLANS TO SETTLE IMMIGRANTS ALONG BOLIVIA'S BORDER WITH BRAZIL, ADDING THAT THE GOB'S IMMIGRATION POLICY IS ORIENTED TOWARD DEVELOPMENT CENTERS IN THE CENTRAL AND SOUTHEASTERN AREAS OF BOLIVIA'S UNDERPOPULATED EASTERN PROVINCES.

2. EMBASSY COMMENT. A FOREIGN MINISTRY
OFFICIAL TOLD EMBOFFS THAT LAST WEEK'S MEETING
OF BOLIVIAN WESTERN HEMISPHERE AMBASSADORS
MADE A STRONG RECOMMENDATION THAT BOLIVIA OFFER
TO ACCEPT LARGE NUMBERS OF SETTLERS FROM
AFRICA AND ELSEWHERE. THIS MAY HAVE CONTRIBUTED
TO THE RUMORS OF 150,000 IMMIGRANTS. WHILE MANY
BOLIVIANS BELIEVE THEIR COUNTRY SHOULD
PERMIT AN OPEN IMMIGRATION POLICY IN ORDER TO
PROTECT ITS UNDERPOPULATED EASTERN PROVINCES
OF SANTA CRUZ AND THE BENI FROM BRAZILIAN
ENCROACHMENT, MANY OTHERS FEAR THAT RHODESIAN
AND OTHER SETTLERS WOULD SOON BEGIN TO DOMINATE
THE NATION. THUS THIS IS A DELICATE POLITICAL
ISSUE FOR THE GOB, BUT IT NONETHELESS SEEMS TO
BE HEADING TOWARD A MORE LIBERAL IMMIGRATION
POLICY, INCLUDING ON THE INGRESS OF WHITE
AFRICANS.
STEDMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES, IMMIGRANT QUOTAS
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 11-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Format: TEL
From: LA PAZ
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770571/aaaacjao.tel
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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